



State of Utah  
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES  
DIVISION OF OIL, GAS AND MINING

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June 18, 1996

CERTIFIED RETURN RECEIPT

P 074 979 001

William and Preston Bown  
Utah Building Stone Supply  
842 West 400 North  
Bountiful, Utah 84087

Re: Status of Grouse Creek Quarry, Utah Building Stone Supply Company, M/003/031, Box Elder County, Utah

Dear Mr. Bown:

Thank you for taking the time on June 5, 1996, to jointly inspect the Grouse Creek operation with Mr. Mike Ford of the BLM and Mr. Lynn Kunzler of the Division. Mr. Kunzler has briefed me on the results of that inspection and the proposed resolution(s) to the Division's November 6, 1995 non-compliance letter.

When we met at the Division's offices on February 14, 1996, you questioned the acreage that had been calculated for the Grouse Creek Quarry and the location of roads that the Division and BLM had determined were your responsibility. At a result of that meeting, the Division temporarily suspended the non-compliance mitigation requirement of filing a Notice of Intention to Conduct Large Mining Operations and a \$25,000 Interim Reclamation Surety, until a joint inspection could be made to resolve the road issues.

Please refer to the attached June 5, 1996 inspection memo, for a discussion of the disturbed acreage within the Grouse Creek area. A revised, color-coded topographic map is also attached which identifies the roads in the Grouse Creek Quarry area. The roads are keyed as *multiple use* (i.e., public), or *mine access* (i.e., your reclamation responsibility). Our calculations indicate a total of 8.73 disturbed acres of "mine access" road lead to your quarrying operation. Of this total, we believe 4.31 acres could be contemporaneously reclaimed without significantly affecting your ability to access your quarry. This leaves a balance of 4.42 acres of surface disturbance. Once the reclamation is completed, we could consider authorizing your request to build the 0.38 acre road to access the Sandalwood area. The total permitted disturbance would remain under the 5-acre threshold qualifying this site as a small mining operation.

Presently, at 8.73 acres of disturbance, this site falls under a large mine classification. The Division appreciates the fact that your present production rate at this site is low, and that a large reclamation bond would be burdensome. During the June 5, 1996 inspection, you requested that the



Page 2  
William & Preston Bown  
M/003/031  
June 18, 1996

Division postpone requiring contemporaneous reclamation of excess acreage until the end of October, 1996. You stated this postponement would allow you to continue with uninterrupted production from your other active sites. Because previous reclamation commitments/deadlines have not been met, the Division cannot accept your request. Accordingly, the Division establishes a July 31, 1996, deadline to complete the reclamation on the 4.31 acres of excess mine access roads (reseeding and scarification should be delayed until October, 1996). As an alternative to meeting this deadline, you may post an "adjusted" interim reclamation surety with this office by July 31, 1996. You may request a reduction of the surety amount once the reclamation work has been completed. Full release of the reclamation surety may be requested once the reseeding efforts meet the 70% revegetation success standard. We have revised the amount of interim reclamation surety from \$25,000 (original November 6, 1995 estimate), to \$6,500 (1996 dollars). This dollar amount is based upon an average cost estimate of \$750 per acre (which was used for the Lynn Springs Quarry road reclamation).

You are reminded that the Grouse Creek Quarry (file M/003/031) remains in non-compliance until sufficient reclamation is performed to reduce the disturbed acreage to 5 or less acres, or the site is permitted and bonded as a large mining operation.

Please provide a written response to this letter indicating your preferred intentions for this site by July 1, 1996. Should you have questions regarding the content of this letter, please contact me or Lynn Kunzler of my staff at your earliest convenience.

Sincerely,



D. Wayne Hedberg  
Permit Supervisor  
Minerals Regulatory Program

jb

Attachment

cc: Lowell Braxton, DOGM  
Gordon Struthers, USFS  
Minerals staff (route)

M003031.ltr



